

### **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

An implantable medical device is operable in a normal mode of operation, including a test mode, as well as in at least one other mode of operation outside of the normal mode. The device has a signal detector that  
5 is responsive to an external activation and a timer that can be programmed with a specified time period. If the external activation is detected by the signal detector during the programmed time period, the medical device is operated in a mode outside of the normal mode. The medical device enters into the test mode, within the normal mode, if the external activation is detected by the  
10 signal detector outside of the time period.